to sanction of doubling between Shomur-Kuttippuram, this line is now classified as new line from Tanur to Guruvayur. The survey report is under examination in consultation with the concerned zonal Railway after which requisite clearances will be obtained before the work is taken up.

Problems of railway passengers

† 749. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reaction of Government to the editorial published under the caption "Rail Yatrion Ki Trasdi" on 4th June, 2000 in "Dainik Jagran"; and

(b) the measures Government have taken to resolve all these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) In order to improve the punctuality of GNS-1 Ghaziabad-Sukur Basti EMU which is linked with MN-1 Mathura-New Delhi EMU and GN-2 New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU, it has been decided that whenever MN-1 is late by more than 15. minutes, a separate rake is pulled ex. Ghaziabad EMU car shed so that the service GNS-1 is provided within 15 minutes of its right time departure. As a result, the punctuality performance of GNS-1 has improved substantially.

Necessary instructions have been reiterated to the concerned authorities to monitor the running of all suburban services for giving better services to passengers. Introduction of additional services on New Delhi-Ghaziabad section has not been found operationally feasible at present.

Passenger fares of different classes are adjusted time to time keeping in view the increase in cost of service as well as the ability of passenger to bear such increase. In last ten years, even Second Class

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Ordinary) fares have been increased by about six percent per annum. Outlay on passenger amenities has been increased in the current year. It is expected that improvement in quality of service will generate high growth of passenger traffic as well as earnings.

Railways are very much alive to the necessity to provide potable water to the passengers. The water supply received from the local Municipalities/Water supply authorities are supplied as it is. Water drawn from Railway's own sources like open well/bore well etc. is stored and chlorinated before it is supplied on platforms and in coaches. The samples of water thus supplied are periodically tested and certified by the Medical Department of the Railways. Thus, Railways take adequate care to ensure supply of potable water to passengers.

As regards security of the passengers, Railway Police Station/ Railway Police Out-Post, is available at all important Railway Stations.

A.C. train on Kothavalasa-Kirandul line in Andhra Pradesh

750. DR. DASAR1 NARAYANA RAO:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to run a train with A.C. coaches, fitted with fibre glasses on the Kothavalasa-Kirandul metre gauge line in Andhra Pradesh to tap tourist potential for view of the Eastern Ghats;

(b) if so, the *details thereof;* and

(c) by when it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.